



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Friday Evening, October 30, 2009

Electricity

Tornadoes, Storms Cut Power to more than 28,000 Customers in Arkansas and Louisiana October 29-30

Tornadoes and storms knocked out power to 19,737 AEP-SWEPCO customers in Arkansas and Louisiana and almost 9,000 Entergy Arkansas customers, sources said. At least one person died in the storms. Just 2,689 AEP-SWEPCO customers and 1,457 Entergy Arkansas customers remained in the dark, as of latest reports.

AEP-SWEPCO: <https://www.swepco.com/outages/>

Entergy Arkansas: <http://www.entergy-arkansas.com/outages/ar.aspx>

<http://www.ksla.com/Global/story.asp?S=11414283>

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2009/10/30/national/main5460127.shtml>

<http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20091030/UPDATES01/91030009>

AEP Shuts 690 MW Oklaunion Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas October 30

American Electric Power (AEP) shut the unit "for boiler inspection and repair," it said in a filing with state regulators. The company expected the unit to remain offline until October 31, according to the filing.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=130732>

Ace Cogeneration's 118 MW Ace Cogeneration Coal-fired Unit in California Shut by October 29

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported an unplanned outage by October 29.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200910291515.html>

Update: Dominion's 925 MW North Anna Nuke Unit 1 in Virginia at Full Power by October 30

The unit went offline due to "a pinhole leak in a reactor purification system" by October 26, a news source said.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of October 29 the unit was not operating.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN3040674420091030>

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2009/>

Update: AES's 226 MW Huntington Beach Gas-fired Unit 1 in California Returns to Service by October 29

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200910291515.html>

BP and Rio Tinto Plan 250 MW IGCC Power Plant and Carbon Capture System in California

BP and Rio Tinto's jointly-owned Hydrogen Energy (HEI) plans to construct a 250 MW integrated gasification combined-cycle (IGCC) power plant in Kern County, California, the project's technology licensor said in a release.

The facility would convert petroleum coke or coal into synthesis gas, filter out pollutants, separate carbon dioxide (CO₂), and run on the resultant fuel. It would capture as much as 90 percent of its CO₂ emissions. The companies would use the trapped CO₂ to enhance oil recovery and sequestration at an adjacent oilfield.

<http://www.genewscenter.com/content/detail.aspx?ReleaseID=8854&NewsAreaID=2>

Update: BP Faces Record OSHA Fines over 2005 Blast at 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas Refinery—OSHA Says Company Failed to Perform Necessary Upgrades

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued \$87,430,000 in proposed penalties to BP Products North America Inc., citing the company's failure to correct safety issues after a fatal March 2005 explosion at its 467,720 b/d Texas City, Texas refinery, according to an OSHA release. The blast killed 15 people and injured 170 others. BP agreed in September 2005 to improve safety conditions, but OSHA said the company failed to satisfy the terms of that deal. It issued 270 "notifications of failure to abate," and "identified 439 new willful violations for failures to follow industry-accepted controls on the pressure relief safety systems and other process safety management violations." The documented safety lapses "could lead to another catastrophe" at the facility, said U.S. Labor Secretary Hilda Solis. BP said it would dispute the accusations, according to a news source.

Reuters, 11:06 October 30, 2009

Reuters, 10:33 October 30, 2009

http://osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=16674

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/30/business/30labor.html>

Valero Fixing Leaky Unit at 315,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery October 30

Valero planned to restart a vacuum unit at its 315,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas refinery from October 30 to November 1, the company said in a filing with state regulators. Operators shut the unit due to a leak by October 30, a spokesman said. The company did not expect the incident to have any "overall impact on production," according to the spokesman.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=131344>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=131353>

Reuters, 11:35 October 30, 2009

Bloomberg News, 11:48 October 30, 2009

Total Restarts Units after Brief Shutdowns at 174,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery October 29

Total restarted three units—Unit 836, 827 and 819—after Unit 836's shutdown forced offline the other two units, the company said in a filing with state regulators. The filing did not further identify the units, but a news source said the shutdowns included a SCOT unit and a sulfur recovery unit (SRU).

<http://english.capital.gr/news.asp?id=843323>

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=131330>

Hydrocracker Malfunctions at Shell's 130,000 b/d Montreal East Refinery in Quebec, Canada by October 30

Shell began unplanned work after a hydrocracking unit malfunctioned at its 130,000 b/d Montreal East refinery in Quebec, Canada by October 30, a refinery official said. It was not clear if the incident had any impact to production.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601082&sid=aabBDV8Kghvg>

Natural Gas

Nothing to report.

Other News

Abengoa Bioenergy Plans 100 MMGal/Yr. Ethanol Plants in Illinois and Indiana

Abengoa Bioenergy plans to open two 100 MMGal/Yr. ethanol plants—one in Illinois and another in Indiana—during the first quarter of 2010, a company official said by October 29.

[http://www.forexyard.com/en/reuters_inner.tpl?action=2009-10-](http://www.forexyard.com/en/reuters_inner.tpl?action=2009-10-29T121018Z_01_LT297045_RTRIDST_0_ABENGOA-ETHANOL-INTERVIEW-UPDATE-1)

[29T121018Z_01_LT297045_RTRIDST_0_ABENGOA-ETHANOL-INTERVIEW-UPDATE-1](http://www.forexyard.com/en/reuters_inner.tpl?action=2009-10-29T121018Z_01_LT297045_RTRIDST_0_ABENGOA-ETHANOL-INTERVIEW-UPDATE-1)

ICG Shuts Sycamore Coal Mine in West Virginia on Customer Delay

International Coal Group (ICG) shut its Sycamore coal mine in Harrison County, West Virginia in late September, after its customer, Allegheny Energy, postponed shipments from the site. Allegheny said it made the move because of a coal oversupply at its Harrison power plant in West Virginia. Separately, ICG reduced coal production by 500,000 tons/year at its Eastern mine in West Virginia, citing market conditions. The reduction began in early October, the company said.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/ICG-blames-Allegheny-for-WVa-apf-2092804342.html?x=0&.v=2>

<http://seekingalpha.com/article/170024-international-coal-group-q3-2009-earnings-call-transcript?page=-1>

DOE Awards up to \$338 Million to Boost U.S. Geothermal Energy

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Steven Chu today announced up to \$338 million in Recovery Act funding for the exploration and development of new geothermal fields and research into advanced geothermal technologies, the DOE said in a release. DOE said the grants would support 123 projects in 39 states, and be matched with an additional \$353 million in private and non-Federal cost-share funds.

<http://www.energy.gov/news2009/8233.htm>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices October 30, 2009			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	78.22	80.32	64.48
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	4.11	4.98	6.58

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Switch Malfunction Cuts Power Briefly to Almost 13,000 Alliant Energy Customers in Iowa October 27

<http://www.kcrg.com/news/local/67351207.html>

Transformer Malfunction Cuts Power to more than 10,000 Ruston Light & Power Customers in Louisiana October 30

<http://www.ruston.org/electricaldistribution/>

<http://www.shreveporttimes.com/article/20091030/NEWS01/91030044/Electrical-power-is-out-in-Ruston>

<http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20091030/UPDATES01/91030024>

Orlando Utilities Commission Seeks Company to Construct and Operate 5-to-10 MW Solar Power Project in Florida

<http://orlando.bizjournals.com/orlando/stories/2009/10/26/story8.html?b=1256529600^2305011>

Florida State University Plans 5 MW Combined Solar-and-Biomass-fired Power Plant in Florida

<http://orlando.bizjournals.com/orlando/stories/2009/10/26/story8.html?b=1256529600^2305011>

Oil Spills During Tanker-Barge Fuel Transfer in San Francisco Bay, California October 30—Fuel Slick Stretches Approximately 1 Mile

<http://www.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idUSTRE59T34E20091030>

Update: Iraq Expects to Restart Kirkuk, Iraq-to-Ceyhan, Turkey Oil Pipeline within Two Days—Suspected Insurgent Attack Forced Shut Line on October 26

Reuters, 11:04 October 30, 2009

U.S. Natural Gas Discoveries Total Record 29.5 Tcf in 2008—EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/natural_gas/data_publications/crude_oil_natural_gas_reserves/cr.html

Apache Corp. Produces 17 MMcf/d of Natural Gas at Granite Wash Field in Texas and Oklahoma

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20091030-710284.html>

Ultra Petroleum Corp. Boosts U.S. O&G Production 27 Percent, Year-on-Year, from 36.3 Bcfe in Third Quarter of 2008 to 45.9 Bcfe in Third Quarter of 2009

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/ultra-petroleum-announces-third-quarter-2009-financial-results-record-production-and-industry-leading-returns-67541542.html>

Accident Triggers Oil Spill, Forces Shut Odessa-Brody Oil Export Pipeline in Ukraine October 28

<http://www.ukrainianjournal.com/index.php?w=article&id=9342>

Gill Ranch Storage Receives CPUC Approval for Planned 20 Bcf Gill Ranch Natural Gas Storage Project in California October 29

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=18969

Update: Appeals Court Affirms District Court Ruling in Support of Permit Process for Weaver's Cove Energy's Planned LNG Terminal in Massachusetts

http://www.heraldnews.com/news/local_news/x665154864/Appeals-court-upholds-R-I-LNG-ruling

Congress Approves \$25 Million for Oil Storage Planning at Richton Salt Domes in Mississippi—Site Slated to Hold 160 Million Barrels of Oil

<http://www.sunherald.com/218/story/1709488.html>

<http://www.gulflive.com/news/mississippipress/news.ssf?/base/news/125689770769880.xml&coll=5>

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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